

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 6th MAY 2014 AT 7.15 P.M.
IN FULFORD VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Brayford, Mrs Barker, Mrs Baskin, Mrs Jennings, Mrs McPherson, Monks, Mycock, Miss Noblett, Oxby, Shaw, Taylor and Mrs Wheat.

IN ATTENDANCE: BC Dodson, 1 members of the public & S Beck (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Colclough, Holmes (also Borough Councillor) & Lovatt, Borough Councillor Roycroft

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public expressed concern at the poor state of repair of the public footpath running from Fulford Road to Saverley Green,

42/14 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE 2014/15 YEAR

RESOLVED:

Councillor Mrs Jennings, being the only nominee, was duly elected Chairman for the ensuing year and the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

Cllr. Mrs Jennings proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr. Mrs Brayford for her term as Chairman.

43/14 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

44/14 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE 2014/15 YEAR

RESOLVED:

Cllr. Colclough being the only nominee was duly elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

45/14 POLICE REPORT

None

46/14 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the state of the public footpath be reported to the County Council, who have responsibility for keeping footpaths in good repair.

47/14 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10th April 2014, having been circulated, be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

48/14 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS

Cllr Dodson reported that the planning application for a barn in Fulford Dale had been refused.

49/14 FINANCE

(a) Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED:

That authority be given for cheques to be issued in settlement of the invoices shown in the accounts for payment attached as an Appendix to the signed minutes.

(b) To approve the annual governance and accounting statement for 2013/14

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the governance and accounting statement for 2013/14 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

50/14 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED:

That the following be appointed for the 2014/15 year:

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Councillors Mrs Brayford, Holmes, Lovatt, Shaw, Taylor & Mrs Wheat. Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio.

Planning Committee

Councillors Mrs Brayford, Evans, Mrs McPherson, Mycock, Miss Noblett & Shaw Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Grindley Park Management Group

Councillors Mrs Brayford, Holmes & Oxby plus all Councillors from the Meir Heath and Rough Close Wards. Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Parish Newsletter Working Party

Councillors Mycock, Oxby, Shaw and Taylor. Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Parish Plans Working Party

Councillors Holmes, Mrs McPherson Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Parish Council Website Management Group

Councillors Holmes, Oxby and Taylor. Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Highway Maintenance Liaison Group

Councillors Mrs Brayford, Mrs Baskin, Holmes, Monks, Oxby, Shaw & Taylor. Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Complaints Committee – Councillors Mycock, Mrs McPherson, Oxby & Mrs Wheat. Chairman and Vice- Chairman ex-officio

Representatives on Outside Bodies

Meir Heath & Rough Close V.H.M.C. – Councillor Mrs Jennings

Fulford V.H.M.C. – Councillor Holmes

SPCA Stafford Area Committee – Councillors Mrs. Brayford, Holmes and Mrs McPherson

Sustainable Staffordshire – Councillors Mrs Jennings and Taylor

SPCA Executive Committee – Councillors Mrs Brayford & Holmes

Governor Fulford Primary School – None

Governor Meir Heath Primary School – Cllr Mrs Jennings

Governors Springcroft Primary School – None

Governor Portland College – Councillor Mrs Brayford

51/14 PLANNING

(a) Applications

There had been no meeting of the Planning Sub-Committee since the last meeting.

(b) Decisions

The following application decisions made by the Borough Council were reported:-

Approved:

14/17137/LDC – 222 Grindley Lane Blythe Bridge Stoke On Trent Staffordshire ST11 9JS - building works comprising a replacement linking extension to and conversion of a garage and occupation of the resulting accommodation as a self-contained living unit attached to but occupied separately from the main dwelling to form a one-bedroom flat.

(c) Other Planning Issues

None

52/14 OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION BY THE COUNCIL

(a) Community Paths Initiative

Details on the proposal were circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed to consider two possible projects a) interpretation board for Rough Close Common and b) kissing gates on footpath 39 (Cllr Taylor to advise).

(b) New Draft Financial Regulations

The Clerk reported that the legislative reform order repealing section 150(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 came into force on Thursday 13th March 2014. This means local councils have the choice to make payments by electronic banking means rather than necessarily having to make payments by cheque. Councils, may of course, continue to make payments by cheque. New Draft Financial Regulations have been produced by NALC to reflect this change and therefore the Council will need to consider their own Financial regulations in the light of these changes.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that this item should initially be dealt with by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

(c) Nomination(s) for Local Authority Governor – Springcroft school

RESOLVED:

No nomination will be put forward from the Council.

53/14 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Revised bus services in the parish – Cllr. Oxby reported that some of the information put out by the County Council on revised bus services in the parish had been incorrect.

George & Dragon – Cllr. Mrs Jennings reported that a Borough Council Enforcement Officer had visited the site and was insisting on a wood panel fence being erected around the site.

Newsletter (Summer edition) – items required by the 14th May.

A50 Growth Corridor – the Clerk reported on the response he had had from the CC re: Blythe Bridge roundabout exclusion from the Growth corridor plans. The CC confirmed it was out-of-scope of the plans and would seek a position statement from the Highways Agency on what future work, if any, would be carried out here.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Local Boundary Commission – draft recommendations of the electoral review of Stafford

54/14 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- Fibre Optic Broadband
- Grass mowing on Fulford Village Green
- Footpaths
- Refreshments at PC meetings

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened at **Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on Thursday 12th June 2014 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN